CLAIMS

Avian cell line, which is immortalized, but untransformed, and resistant to apoptosis.

2. Wavian cell line according to Claim 1, characferized in that it is obtained from cells of avian tissues. a wherein

Avian cell line according to Claim 2, characterized in that it is derived from fibroblasts or epithelial cells.

Immortal, untransformed avian cell line, which is selected from the group consisting of:

- cell line TDF-2A bcl-2, which is deposited in the (Collectiøn CNCM Nationale de Cultures de Microorganismes / de l'Institut Pasteur [Pasteur Institute National Collection of Microorganism Cultures]) under reference number I-1709.

- cell line TCF-4.10, which is deposited in the CNCM under reference number I-1710,

- cell line TCF-4.10 bcl-2, which is deposited in the CNCM under reference number I-1711.

Immortal avian cells which are derived from the cell line according to one of Claims 1 to 4.

Cells according to Claim 5, characterized in that they contain at least one expression cassette which comprises at least one nucleotide sequence encoding a molecule of industrial relevance.

7. Cells according to Claim 6, characterized in that the nucleotide sequence encodes a viral subunit of the peptide, protein or glycoprotein type or encodes protein molecules such as hormones.

8. Cells according to Claim 5, characterized in that they are infected, preferably chronically, with a virus which is able to multiply in these cells.

characterized in that they contain a survival or antiapoptotic gene other than bcl-2, which gene is preferably selected from the group consisting of p19E1B from human adenovirus, LMP-1 from Epstein Barr virus,

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BHRF1 from Epstein Barr virus, ICP34.5 from herpes simplex virus and p35 from baculovirus.

characterized in that they integrate vectors which are able to overexpress one or more of the genes involved in controlling the cell cycle in order to increase the rate of proliferation

11. Cells according to any one of Claims 5 to 10; characterized in that they integrate genes which encode viral receptors.

12. Cells according to any one of Claims 5 to 11, characterized in that they integrate oncogenes which are able to accelerate cell growth.

13. Method for producing molecules of industrial relevance of viruses, comprising culturing cells according to any one of Claims 5 to 12.

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